

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 09821 151135Z
ACTION AF-10

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-----151136Z 075789 /12

O 151133Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5039

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FOR AF ONLY -- AMBASSADOR LOW FROM SEITZ

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PDEV RH UK
SUBJECT: RHODESIA: NEXT ROUND OF US-UK CONSULTATIONS

1. I FINALLY SPOKE WITH JOHNNY GRAHAM LAST NIGHT. HE HAS NO DIFFICULTY IN SEPARATING HIS CONSULTATIVE TRIP TO WASHINGTON FROM MANSFIELD'S WIDER MISSION. THE TROUBLE, HE SAID, IS THAT HE DOESN'T EXPECT TO HAVE MUCH TO SAY TO US UNTIL JUNE 25 OR SO. I HAD THE DISTINCT IMPRESSION THAT HE LACKS GUIDANCE FROM OWEN, AND THAT OWEN HIMSELF WILL REMAIN UNDECIDED ABOUT NEXT STEPS UNTIL AFTER HE SEES VANCE IN PARIS JUNE 23. GRAHAM SAID IF HE WENT TO WASHINGTON ANY EARLIER, HE WOULD ONLY BE ABLE "TO THINK ALOUD."

2. LATER IN THE CONVERSATION GRAHAM AGREED THAT THE THINKING-ALOUD SESSION IN WASHINGTON MIGHT NEVERTHELESS BE A USEFUL EXERCISE. HE FULLY APPRECIATES YOUR PROBLEMS AND COMMITMENTS.

3. GRAHAM TENTATIVELY PLANS TO RESUME CONSULTATIVE GROUP CONTACTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA BEGINNING JUNE 29 IN LUSAKA AND MOVING TO SALISBURY JULY 1.

4. I ASKED GRAHAM IF FRINGE MEETINGS DURING THE
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COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE HAD ADVANCED THE RHODESIA PROCESS. "NOT AT ALL," HE REPLIED. HE CONFIRMED THERE HAS BEEN HARD BARGAINING OVER THE COMMUNIQUE AND THAT HE HAS SPENT LONG HOURS RESISTING PROPOSALS SUCH AS "THE DISMEMBERMENT OF THE RHODESIA ARMY."

5. GRAHAM WILL TRY TO GET BACK TO ME TODAY WITH MORE

CONCRETE SUGGESTIONS ON A TIMETABLE.

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Message Attributes

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Decapton Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
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